May God keep you ...

Ethel Dasis' letter from home is to her son, Staff Sgt. Peter James Dasis of the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Dasis, 31, is from Butler, Ala., and he is in charge of quality assurance for missile maintenance.

Dear Peter.

We want you to know how very proud we are of you for serving our country for the past 12 years. Although you are stationed here in The States, and have not been deployed, we know that your job of keeping our missiles in A-1 condition is an extremely important one - so they will be ready at a moment's notice if they are needed for the defense of our country.

May God watch over you and all of our troops and keep you in the palm of His hand. We all love you very much.

Mama, Daddy and all your sisters and brothers



Dasis

'Oh no, not again!'

Janis Covert Nowlan wrote this story about her son, Staff Sgt. Don "Tyler" Wiggins of the Mississippi Air National Guard's 238th Air Support Operations Squadron in Meridian.

Tyler is from the Blackwater community in Kemper County. He's already been to Iraq once, from February 2004 to June 2004. And then, orders came for a second tour beginning in January 2005.

When he heard about it.

Janis said, the first words out of his mouth were a good-natured "Oh no, not again!"

By Janis Covert Nowlan

special to The Star

Naturally, as a mother, I can tell you that children are a mother's heart.

I can clearly recall, when I had my only son, thinking, "I hope he never has to go to war," because I had two brothers who served in Vietnam. I watched my own mother, who is no longer with us, worry until they returned safely home.

My mother adored Tyler. She said, "He will be something special when he is

PSALMS 91

Janis Covert Nowlan gave her son a copy of Psalms 91 to take with him to Iraq. She calls it a soldier's psalm. Verses 10-11 read: "There shall be no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

special to us.

At a very early age, Tyler seemed to be a real patriot in his heart, and loved the idea of serving in the military ... He spent four months in Iraq last year in heavy battle and was scheduled to return in January

It is a difficult time. I am very proud of him and his

grown." And soldiers are very love, dedication and willingness to serve and fight for our freedom and the freedom of others. He has such a heart for children, and he said some of the Iraqi children did not even have shoes.

> Before he left last time, I gave him Psalms 91 to take with him. It is a soldier's psalm, which I hope everyone prays daily. I pray for his family and all of the military and their families. I thank all the people who pray, send gifts and show support for the men and their families.

> To all of you, I say thanks and please keep praying.

> Thanks to all who serve for the valor, strength and dedication. And, I thank God for my son of whom I am very proud - for all that God has made him to be. Not just a soldier, but a father, a son and a real patriot.